

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/022,266

Examiner

Lina Yang

Applicant(s)

SHIBASAKI ET AL.

Art Unit

2665

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 9/7/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-9, 19 and 20.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:

1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-9 and 19-20 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance.

The subject matter of claims 1-9 is allowable over prior art of record, because all prior arts fail to teach or suggest a data transmission method for transmitting data in a system having a host apparatus and at least one terminal apparatus, comprising the steps of: forwarding a transmission request from the host apparatus to the terminal apparatus; forwarding a communication request from the terminal apparatus to the host apparatus in response to the transmission request, the communication request containing a timer value of a timer contained in the terminal apparatus, ***said timer value representing a time when the terminal apparatus has come into a communication possible state; and conducting polling from the host apparatus to the terminal apparatus, which has forwarded the communication request, according to an identification information based on the received timer value.***

The subject matter of claim 19 is allowable over prior art of record, because all prior arts fail to teach or suggest a communication apparatus for use in data transmission with at least one terminal apparatus connected to the communication

Art Unit: 2665

apparatus, the communication apparatus comprising: a communication controller for forwarding a transmission request to said terminal apparatus and for receiving from said terminal apparatus a reply corresponding to the transmission request; an identification information establishing unit for extracting a timer value obtained from said terminal apparatus from the reply, which is received from the terminal apparatus by said communication controller, ***said timer value representing a time when the terminal apparatus has come into a communication possible state; and a polling unit for implementing polling to the terminal apparatus using the identifying information based on the timer value.***

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

2. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Yamaguchi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,246,696) discloses a communication control apparatus with a terminal ID information transmission section to transmit the terminal ID in accordance with a value set by a timer (fig. 16 and col. 21 line 16-20). But, the timer value was not transmitted.

Watanabe et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,886,646) discloses a transmission terminal includes a timer, which starts when the ID code is generated (col. 3 lines 17-23).

Imai et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4, 654,483) discloses an identification system to identify a storage unit is determined by using a timer (col. 21 lines 7-10 and 49-59).

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lina Yang whose telephone number is (571)272-3151. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Thursday between 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. eastern standard time.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Huy Vu can be reached on (571)272-3155. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 517-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

LY



ALPUS H. HSU
PRIMARY EXAMINER